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LETTER DATED 11 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the present response to a fresh allegation made by the Foreign Minister of Sudan's National Islamic Front (NIF) regime in his letter dated 3 April 1997, addressed to the President of the Security Council and circulated to member States as a document of the Council (S/1997/271).

In that letter, the Foreign Minister of the Sudan once again accused my Government of committing further acts of aggression against the territory of the eastern part of the country. The letter also gave details of dates of military operations and places allegedly attacked by Eritrean forces.

That the NIF regime's foundation is shaken by current ongoing political opposition and armed operations is a public secret which needs no elaboration. The Sudan is steered today by the escalation of armed resistance waged by various opposition movements. The international community is well aware of and highly concerned about these internally caused developments.

However, the NIF regime is still engaged in a face-saving political and diplomatic game by distorting political realities so as to hoodwink public opinion. It has been practising this by ascribing its failure to solve its internal problems to others or mainly pointing accusing fingers at its neighbours.

The charges levelled against my Government in the above-mentioned letter are but a continuation of this lame and desperate fabrication.

Once again, my Government denies any involvement in Sudanese internal affairs and categorically rejects the new false accusations by the NIF regime of Eritrean acts of aggression in eastern Sudan.

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amdemicael KAHSAI
Permanent Representative

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